Sir, Philadelphia 14 Augt. 1779

Congreſs have deemed it highly neceſsary to inform you that the enemy have exerted themselves to find out a very considerable reinforcement to their Army now in America. Seven thousand were destined hither from Europe and three thousand from the West-Indies. The operations in the place last mentioned may perhaps prevent the arrival of those troops. But there is no solid reason to expect that the European reinforcements will not arrive.

It is proper you should be informed that our Allies were much concerned to find that preparations were not earlier made for a vigorous Campaign. The exertions of America are neceſsary to obtain the great objects of the alliance, her liberty, Sovereignty & Independence. The barbarities already exhibited by the Enemy and their avowed determinations to give a still greater scope to their ravages are additional motives to our endeavours. Congreſs are fully convinced therefore that you will comply with their earnest wishes to prepare for the most immediate and most vigorous Operations, particularly by filling up your

Batallions

Batallions and having the militia of your State ready to march at the Shortest warning It is highly probable that circumstances may Soon call them forth to operate offensively and it is hoped and expected with Such energy and effect as to free these States from their Hostile Invaders.—

I have the Honor to be with great Respect & Esteem

Your Excellency's most Obed^t Servant

John Jay

Presid^t

His Excellency Governor Rodney

P.S. A Copy of an Act of Congress of the 12th Inst, against John Douglass, late Commander of the Privateer Schooner called the Hunter is herewith enclosed

RW 689a(1)

Letter from
John Jay

Ms. E. 9.1 no. 32

RW 689(2)